

# TRANSACTIONS AND USE TAX ANNOTATIONS

TABLE OF TITLES	Page Number
APPLICATION OF TRANSACTIONS (SALES) TAX AND	
USE TAX—Regulation 1823	. 5455
ADMINISTRATION	. 5472
COLLECTION OF TAX BY RETAILERS—Regulation 1827	. 5473
AIRCRAFT COMMON CARRIERS AND WATERBORNE	
VESSELS—Regulation 1825	. 5476
CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS—Regulation 1826	. 5478
PLACE OF DELIVERY OF CERTAIN VEHICLES, AIRCRAFT	
AND UNDOCUMENTED VESSELS—Regulation 1823.5	. 5480
PLACE OF SALE FOR PURPOSES OF TRANSACTIONS (SALES)	
AND USE TAXES—Regulation 1822	. 5482
* * *	
INDEX OF PUBLISHED ANNOTATIONS	. 5551
INDEX OF DELETED ANNOTATIONS	5575

# 800.0000 APPLICATION OF TRANSACTIONS (SALES) TAX AND USE TAX—Regulation 1823

800.0001 **Applicable Rate—Terminated District Tax.** A dealer sold a vehicle for European delivery in February 1995 to a California customer from its dealership in California. The vehicle was picked up by the customer in Germany on March 14,1995, used in Germany for a short time, and then it was shipped to the dealership in California. The customer took possession of the vehicle in California on April 21,1995.

The district tax in effect on March 14,1995, terminated prior to the April 21, 1995, arrival of the vehicle in California. While the applicable rate generally is the rate in effect on the date of purchase, there can be no accrual of tax liability until the property is first stored or used in this state. The retailer should collect district use tax at the rate in effect when the vehicle is first used in the district, that is, upon its entry to the district. 8/14/95.

- 800.0002 **Binding—Fixed-Price Contracts.** The seller by accepting the consideration which the purchaser paid pursuant to the terms of the purchase order, created a binding contract which satisfies one of the criteria of a fixed-price contract. 10/4/90.
- 800.0003 **Change Orders—Fixed-Price Contracts.** Change orders are regarded as new contracts. If they are executed after the operative date of the ordinance, they are subject to the new tax rate. 10/4/90.
- 800.0004 **Deliveries Out of District and Use in District.** Normally, the retailer is entitled to assume that the place of use is the place where the purchaser resides. If the customer's business address is located outside a district, the retailer is entitled to assume that the tangible personal property is not purchased for use in a district. On the other hand, if a customer's address is within a district, under section 6247 a retailer engaged in business in that district must collect its use tax unless the retailer obtains a statement from the purchaser that the property was purchased for use outside the district. Regardless of where the customer's business address is located, if the retailer knows, or has reason to know, that the property will be used in a district, such as by the delivery address, the retailer must collect the use tax in effect in the district where the property is actually used if the retailer is engaged in business there.

As a result, when a retailer located in Sacramento County delivers chemicals to farmers or crop dusters located in a nontaxing district, the district tax will not apply. However, if the farmer or crop duster uses the chemicals on a farm located in the taxing district, the farmer or crop duster will be liable for the district use tax. 6/6/89; 6/10/03. (Am. 2004–1).

800.0005 **Delivery of Casket.** A mortician located in a county with one district tax delivers a casket and other tangible personal property to an adjoining county which has two district taxes. If the contract requires shipment to the adjoining county, the sale is not subject to the district sales tax in county where the sale occurred; however, since the casket will be used in the adjoining county, the

district use tax is due for the two district taxes imposed there. If the mortician is "engaged in business" in the destination county he/she is required to collect the district use taxes imposed there.

If shipment is not required under the contract of sale, the district sales tax imposed in the county where the mortician's place of business is located and the sale is made. In this case, the district use taxes in the destination county also apply, but the customer is entitled to a claim a credit for the district tax paid to the county in which the mortician is located. 4/3/90.

- 800.0005.200 **Delivery or Pick Up in a Tax District.** If a contractor picks up construction materials which it purchases in tax district A, the district A sales tax applies. If a vendor located in tax district A delivers the property sold to a point outside the tax district, the district sales tax does not apply. If delivery is in tax district B, use tax applies and the vendor is required to collect the district use tax if it is engaged in business in district B. Otherwise, the buyer must report and pay the district B use tax. 4/25/95.
- 800.0005.900 **District Use Tax.** A person purchases property for use in several districts. The applicable district use tax is the district tax in which the property is first functionally used even though it is not principally used there. 5/15/92.
- 800.0006 **District Use Tax—Collections—Fleet Dealers.** The January 1, 1988 amendments to section 7262 did not change the incidence of use tax. Rather it merely expanded the collection responsibilities of the retailer when a vehicle was registered in a county which has a district tax. Accordingly, if a fleet of vehicles is registered to a firm located in a district, ordinarily the retailer is required to collect the district's use tax. However, if the vehicle is to be used in a county other than the county of registration, the district tax of the county of use is the applicable tax. If the dealer is engaged in business in the county of use, it would be required to collect the district tax for the county of use. If the dealer is not engaged in business in the county of use, the purchaser is responsible for the district use tax. 5/14/90.
- 800.0008 **District Use Tax—Leases of Construction Equipment.** A lessor, located in a county without a district tax, rents construction lift equipment on a short term basis, either daily, weekly or monthly. The lessor generally purchases the equipment tax paid and has it delivered to their place of business.

If within 90 days following the first lease of the equipment, any lessee uses such equipment in a county with a district tax, then that district's use tax will apply to the lessor's purchase price of the equipment provided that within the next six months the equipment is used in that district more than half the time. If one district's use tax applies, then no other districts use tax can apply. 4/2/90.

800.0009 **Fixed Price Contract.** A contract calling for "machinery \$10,000 plus Missouri sales tax" is a fixed price contract if it contains no other provision regarding California sales and use tax. It would qualify for exemption from the district tax provided it met all of the other requirements for exemption. 3/22/91.

800.0009.005 **Fixed Price Contract.** When a lessee has agreed to pay "any applicable use tax," the contract is not for a fixed price. Rather, the amount of the lease receipts could be increased after the operative date of a districts transactions and use tax ordinance. This opinion is not altered by a contract having a handwritten notation "6%" above the word "applicable." In order for the lessor and lessee to avoid the increased tax rate, the word "applicable" would have to be lined out. 2/21/89.

800.0009.250 **Fixed Price Contract-Decrease in Tax Rate.** The Santa Cruz Earthquake Recovery Tax of .50 percent expired on March 31, 1997. On April 1, 1997, the new Santa Cruz County Public Library transactions and use tax of .25 percent commenced. Thus, on March 31, 1997, the combined sales and use tax rate in Santa Cruz was 8.25 percent and, on April 1, 1997, the rate was 8 percent. The question arises as to the proper tax rate due with respect to fixed-price contracts and leases entered into prior to April 1, 1997 which specify a tax rate of 8.25 percent. (The applicable tax rate to leases of mobile transportation equipment is set forth in Regulation 1661(b)(2)(B), the analysis below relates to all other transactions:)

The basic rule of the Sales and Use Tax Law and the Transactions and Use Tax Law is that the rate applicable to the sales or use of tangible personal property is the rate in effect when the taxable sale or taxable use occurs. The only exception to this rule is when there is an exemption from a tax rate increase (including a new district tax). There is nothing in the fixed-price contract exemptions provided by sections 7261(g) and 7262(f) which requires the payment of more tax than is due. Rather, these provisions are applicable only to provide an exemption and not to require payment of more tax than is due simply because the contract of sales (or leases) states that tax will be paid at a rate higher than is actually due when the transaction occurs.

An alternate argument is that the rate should be 7.75 percent on April 1, 1997 for persons with fixed-price contracts would be based on the theory that the fixed-price contract protects the parties from new tax commencing after the contract date even though the fixed-price in the contract specified a rate in excess of the proper total rate in effect April 1, 1997. The fixed-price contract exemptions were adopted to protect the expectations of the participants to a contract of sale or lease from a tax rate increase, not to provide them a windfall of paying less tax than has been specified in their contract of sale. When the contract qualifies as a fixed-price contract under section 7261(g) or 7262(f) because it specifies the tax rate in effect when the parties entered into the contract, the rate that applies is the lesser of the rate at the time the taxable transaction occurs or the amount of tax specified in the contract.

In this situation, the lesser of those rates is 8 percent, which is the correct rate applicable in Santa Cruz County on and after April 1, 1997, without regard to any fixed-price contracts that may specify a tax of 8.25 percent. 1/24/97.

800.0009.550 **Fixed Price Contract—Nonenforcement.** The fact that a retailer may voluntarily choose not to enforce a fixed price contract does not preclude the section 6376.1 exemption. If the initial contract is binding and neither party may

cancel, the subsequent voluntary action by the retailer not to enforce some contracts does not affect the exemption. 1/14/97.

800.0009.750 **Fixed Price Contract—Sales of Mobile Home for Occupancy as a Residency.** The taxpayer sold a mobile home to be used as a residence of the buyer. Under the provisions of sections 6012.8 and 6012.9, the applicable tax is a use tax on the taxpayer. If all of the other provisions of a fixed price contract under section 6376.1 are met, the fact that the taxpayer is a "retailer consumer" and may not charge tax reimbursement does not prevent the exemption from applying.

The taxpayer's cost worksheet shows the tax computed at the old rate and is passed on to the buyer at the old rate under the contract price. Since there was no provision in the contract which allows the taxpayer to increase the price of the mobile home due to the tax increase, the cost worksheet together with the contract/disclosure statement satisfies the requirement that the tax be fixed. 1/14/97.

- 800.0010 **Fixed-Price Contracts.** A sales contract is a "fixed-price" contract if it satisfies the following criteria:
  - (1) It is binding prior to the operative date of the ordinance establishing the tax.
    - (2) Neither party has an unconditional right to terminate the contract.
    - (3) The amount of tax or the tax rate is set forth in the contract. 10/4/90.
- 800.0012 **Fixed Price Contracts, District Taxes.** A contract for the purchase of light rail cars was entered into prior to the imposition of a new district tax. The contract which calls for payment of a lump sum amount for the rail cars, including a fixed amount for sales and use taxes, itemized at 6 percent, qualifies as a fixed price contract. As such, it is not subject to the imposition of a newdistrict tax which became operative after the contract was signed. Regulation 1823 provides that if no party to the contract has the unconditional right to terminate the contract, then the sales of tangible personal property occurring after that date are not subject to the (new) district taxes.

However, the ½% state earthquake tax increase, effective 12/1/89, had no comparable exemption for contracts other than fixed-price construction contracts and leases. Since the contract for the rail cars was neither a construction contract nor a lease, if the cars were delivered during 1990, before the expiration of the ½% tax increase on 1/1/91, the applicable state tax rate was 6½%. The tax was due and payable when the property was delivered from the seller to the buyer, regardless of when payment was due or is made. As such, the tax was required to have been reported and paid with the return for the period in which the sale occurred, 1/23/90.

800.0014 **Fixed Price Contracts—Option Contracts.** A contract that was entered into prior to the effective date of a transactions tax gives the purchaser an option to purchase additional units. The contract is not covered by a "grandfather clause" when the option is exercised after the effective date of the transaction tax.

By exercising the option, the parties agree to buy and sell after the transaction tax effective date. Thus, the units purchased under the option are subject to the new transaction tax. 2/22/95.

800.0015 **Fixed-Price Contract—Unconditional Right to Terminate.** The following terms and conditions contained in a fully-executed sales contract are not the type of unconditional termination clauses which would disqualify it from being a fixed-price contract: "Seller may make changes only with the written consent of the purchaser and the purchaser may terminate the contract only upon full payment for goods already shipped or by payment of a reasonable amount for goods not shipped which the seller cannot recover from other sources." 10/4/90.

800.0020 **Lease Contracts.** Lessor entered into two types of leases of tangible personal property. The first type required the lessee to pay rent for a minimum of six months. Upon termination of the lease either by lapse of time or by exercise of an option to terminate after payment of six months' rent, the property would be offered for sale, and if the original value exceeded the sales price of the property plus accumulated depreciation reserve, the lessee agreed to pay such excess to the lessor. If the sales price of the property plus the accumulated reserve exceeded the original value of the property, the lessor agreed to pay the excess to the lessee. The lease further provided that the lessee agreed to pay "all taxes now or hereafter assessed of every kind of nature by whomsoever payable on or relating to the vehicle and the ownership, leasing, purchase, sale, use, and operation thereof. Any of these amounts paid for by the lessor shall be repaid by the lessee upon demand."

The lease is not "for an amount fixed by the lease prior to the operative date of the ordinance" because the lessee agreed to pay any taxes now or hereafter assessed and thus the amount of the rental could be increased after the operative date of the ordinance. This is the same construction placed on "fixed price" in Section 6376 and in Bulletin 67-12.

After six monthly lease payments were made, the lessee had the option, upon notice, to terminate the lease. The rental adjustment described above would be made upon termination of the lease either by lapse of time or by reason of the exercise of the option to terminate given to the lessee. Since this adjustment is to be made regardless of whether the lease runs its full term or is earlier terminated by the lessee, this is not a condition for termination within the meaning of Sections 7261 and 7262.

The second type of lease is for a straight 24-month period. The only right to terminate is given to the lessor conditioned upon default of the lessee. However, the terms of the lease provide that the lessee agrees to pay "all taxes of every kind and by whomsoever payable (other than Federal and State income taxes) on or relating to said vehicle and the ownership, leasing, purchasing, sale, use, or operation thereof."

For the reasons discussed with respect to a similar clause in the first type of lease, the second type of lease agreement cannot be said to be for "an amount

fixed by a lease prior to the operative date of the ordinance." Accordingly, the district tax applies to the rentals from such leases. 3/31/70.

- 800.0023 **Lease of MTE Vehicles.** Where a vehicle is purchased ex-tax as mobile transportation equipment and a timely election is made to pay use tax measured by the fair rental value of the vehicles, the applicable tax rate is the rate in effect in the county in which the lease first commences. If the vehicle is delivered to the lessee for use in the lessee's county, the lease first commences in that county and the total use tax rate in effect in that county applies to the fair rental value, including any district use taxes. On the other hand, if the lessee takes delivery in the lessor's county, the lease first commences in the lessor's county and the total tax rate in effect in the lessor's county applies to the fair rental value, including any district use taxes, regardless of where the lessee later uses the vehicle. 8/6/85.
- 800.0025 **Local Transportation Authority Tax Ordinances.** Where two statutes are in apparent conflict, the statutes are to be harmonized if at all possible. However, specific statutes have control over general statutes. Thus, the provisions of the Public Utilities Code Section 180204, which provides for an operative date of any transactions or use tax ordinance enacted under the Local Transportation Authority and Improvement Act on the first day of the first calendar quarter 120 days after the tax ordinance is adopted takes precedence over the 110 days called for in Section 7265 of the Revenue and Taxation Code. 3/10/93.
- 800.0027 **Motor Vehicle Leases.** Under a motor vehicle lease, which is a continuing sale, the vehicle's registration address is the address of use. If this is in a district with a district tax, the district's tax is applicable to the rentals payable. If a lessee notifies the lessor in writing that the location at which the vehicle will be located is different from that shown on the registration, that written notification would be documentation indicating the district of use of the vehicle. However, that notification, if not accompanied by a change in the vehicle registration address, must include a valid explanation for this discrepancy in order to overcome the presumption that the registration address is the address of use, 7/3/91.
- 800.0030 **Offer to Purchase.** A taxpayer requested an opinion as to the sales tax rate applicable to purchases made in San Joaquin County. The problem arose with regard to contracts in which the order was placed prior to, and the goods were shipped after, the date a county-wide transactions and use tax was imposed. Does this contract come within the fixed-price contract exemption?

A contract is not binding until the seller accepts the buyer's offer to purchase. An offer to purchase may be accepted by any reasonable means. The normal method of accepting a purchase order offer is to ship the goods. In such contracts, the agreement is not binding until the date of shipment. The buyers acquires title to the goods when delivery is complete. If the order requires some specific mode of acceptance, then the contract would become binding on the date the seller

negotiated the payment or issued the written acceptance. If this contract is not binding prior to the date this tax is revised, it is subject to the higher rate. 6/11/91.

- 800.0031 **Place of Sale, Delivery, and Use.** Purchased computer equipment is delivered to the purchaser's warehouses located in Alameda and Orange Counties. At the warehouses, the equipment is inventoried, tested, or burned in, reconfigured if necessary, and stored at the warehouses for not more than 15 to 30 days before being shipped by the purchaser, in its own facilities, to its final destination. Tax applies in the following situation as follows:
  - (1) The negotiations and contract signing takes place in the San Francisco office of the seller which has more than one office in California. The equipment is delivered to the purchaser's warehouse in Alameda County but is destined for use in Contra Costa County. In this situation under Regulation 1822, the place of sale is the BART district, which includes the counties of San Francisco, Alameda, and Contra Costa Counties. The ½% BART district transaction tax applies to the sale in addition to the uniform state and local sales tax. Since the seller delivered the equipment to the purchaser's warehouse in Alameda County, the ½% district transactions and use tax imposed by the Alameda County Transportation Authority also applies in addition to the BART transaction tax. The exemption for use out of state or out of the district, Regulation 1823(b)(2)(A), does not apply since the purchaser will not ship the equipment out of Alameda County for use solely outside any district imposing the tax.
  - (2) The principal negotiations and contract signing take place in the Los Angeles office of the seller, but the seller's Oakland office participates in the sale, but only to a limited extent. The equipment is delivered to the purchaser's warehouse in Orange County but ultimately is destined for use in San Francisco. In this situation, the BART district use tax applies to this sale. While the seller did not deliver the property into the BART district, nevertheless, the seller's Oakland office has some participation in the sale and the seller, therefore, has an obligation to collect the BART district use tax pursuant to Regulation 1827(b)(1). The Los Angeles County transactions tax does not apply since the seller, pursuant to the contract of sale, delivered the property outside of that district.
  - (3) The negotiations and contract signing take place in the New York office of the seller which has multiple offices in California. The equipment is delivered to the purchaser's warehouse in Alameda County but ultimately is destined for use in branches throughout California. If the seller ships the equipment from a point outside of California, so that the transaction is subject to state use tax, rather than state sales tax, the Alameda County district use tax and the BART district use tax do not apply to this transaction under Regulation 1823(b)(2)(A) for equipment which is delivered by the purchaser to be used solely in branches located outside of any transit district in California. However, where the purchaser ships the equipment to its branches located within any district in California which imposes a use tax, the exemption provided by Regulation 1823(b)(2)(A) does not apply, and both the BART district use tax and the Alameda County district use tax would apply. The seller is obligated to collect the district use taxes from the purchaser if it is engaged in business in both the Alameda district and the BART district.

- (4) The negotiation and contract signing with the retailer, who is not engaged in business in California, take place at the purchaser's New York office. The contract is approved at the retailer's home office in Illinois. The sales contract provides that equipment is sold F.O.B. shipping point and is transported by common carrier from Illinois to the purchaser's warehouse in Alameda County. The equipment is ultimately destined for use in Contra Costa County. The tax applicable in this situation is a use tax payable to the Board by the purchaser. Since the place of delivery is Alameda County and the equipment will not be shipped from Alameda County to a point outside of any district imposing a use tax, the exemption provided by Regulation 1823(b)(2)(A) would not apply. The applicable taxes are the BART district use tax, the Alameda County district use tax, and the uniform state and local use taxes. 2/25/88.
- 800.0032 **Property Obligated Under Lease Agreement.** A box on a lease agreement above the signature lines includes a provision that states: "This is a noncancelable lease agreement for the term shown above." The agreement also provides for a specific amount of tax per month. The agreement is a fixed price lease agreement. Therefore, a newly enacted transactions and use tax would not apply to the lease payments. 10/24/89.
- 800.0033 **Property Transshipped to Offshore Platforms.** Property delivered to a customer's warehouse and subsequently shipped to an offshore platform is not subject to the district use tax. Regulation 1823 provides an exception to the application of use tax when it is limited to storing for subsequent use solely outside the district. 12/6/90.
- 800.0035 **Purchase of Airplane, District Use Tax.** An individual purchased an airplane located in a special taxing district. Although the purchaser subsequently re-registered the plane outside the district, the flight log disclosed that the airplane had been in the district 64.13% of the time, during the first six months after the initial flight. Since the airplane was in the district more than one half the time during the first six months, it must be presumed that the airplane was purchased for use in the district and that the district use tax applies. 4/26/91.
- 800.0040 **Purchases of Fleet Vehicles by State Agencies.** State agencies may purchase a vehicle in one location, register it to a second location (generally Sacramento), and operate it from a third. If a fleet vehicle purchaser buys a vehicle from a dealer located in a district and takes delivery there, then that district's transactions tax applies. On the other hand, merely registering in a district a vehicle purchased outside that district does not subject the purchase to that district's use tax. Regulation 1827(b)(3) does not deal specifically with situations involving fleet vehicles where the county of registration is not always the same as the county in which the vehicle is used. Thus, the location where the vehicle is delivered, where it is used, and where it is registered all affect the application of district tax.

The following decision table was developed to illustrate at least ten different applications of district tax that may occur in the above situation depending on the precise circumstances of the sale:

# DECISION CHART—APPLICATION OF DISTRICT TRANSACTIONS (SALES) AND USE TAX TO THE PURCHASE OF FLEET VEHICLES

Is the Vehicle Dealer Located in a District?	Where is Vehicle Delivered?	Where is the Vehicle Operated From and Garaged When Not in Use? (District of Use)	What is District Tax Rate in District of Use?	Application of District Tax (See page 2)
		In district of dealer location		-
	In district of dealer location	In a district other than of dealer location and delivery	Higher rate than dealer's location Same rate as dealer's location Lower rate than dealer's location	2 1 3
		Not in a district		4
YES		In district of delivery		
	In district other than of dealer location	In a district other than of delivery	Higher rate than delivery district	
		Not in a district		-
	Not in a district	In a district  Not in a district	In a district  Not in a district	8 6
		In district of delivery	In district of delivery	
	In a district	In district other than of delivery	Higher rate than delivery district	
ON		Not in a district		7
		In a district	In a district	01
	Not in a district	Not in a district	Not in a district	

1. A "district" is a county imposing one or more 1/2% or 1/4% district transactions and use taxes.
2. The application of tax is based on the assumption that the dealer is "engaged in business" in the district of delivery by reason of multiple deliveries to that district. Notes:

DECISION CHART—APPLICATION OF DISTRICT TRANSACTIONS (SALES) AND USE TAX TO THE PURCHASE OF FLEET VEHICLES

#### KEY APPLICATION OF TAX

- (1) Vehicle dealer is responsible for reporting the district sales tax for the district in which the dealer is located. The buyer has no reporting responsibilities.
- (2) Vehicle dealer is responsible for reporting the district sales tax for the district in which the dealer is located. Also, if the buyer *registers* the vehicle in the district of use that has a higher rate, the dealer is responsible for reporting the additional district use tax for district of use. If the buyer does not register the vehicle in the district of use, the buyer is directly responsible for reporting the additional district use tax for the district of use.
- (3) Vehicle dealer is responsible for reporting the district sales tax for the district in which the dealer is located, unless the buyer provides a declaration (copy attached) stating the vehicle will be used in the district with a lower rate, in which case the dealer is responsible for reporting the district use tax for the district of use. The buyer has no reporting responsibilities.
- (4) Vehicle dealer is responsible for reporting the district sales tax for the district in which the dealer is located, unless the buyer provides a declaration (copy attached) stating the vehicle will not be used in any district, in which case the dealer is not responsible for reporting district tax. The buyer has no reporting responsibilities.
- (5) Vehicle dealer is responsible for reporting the district use tax for the district of delivery. The buyer has no reporting responsibilities.
- (6) Vehicle dealer is responsible for reporting the district use tax for the district in which the vehicle is delivered. Also, if the buyer *registers* the vehicle in the district of use that has a higher rate, the dealer is responsible for reporting the additional district use tax for the district of use. If the buyer does not register the vehicle in the district of use, the buyer is directly responsible for reporting the additional district use tax for the district of use.
- (7) Vehicle dealer is responsible for reporting the district use tax for the district in which the vehicle is delivered. The buyer may submit a claim for refund for the total district use tax paid to the district of delivery.
- (8) Vehicle dealer is not responsible for reporting district tax, unless buyer registers the vehicle in the district of use, in which case the dealer must report the district use tax for the district where the vehicle will be used. If the buyer does not register the vehicle in the district of use, the buyer is directly responsible for reporting the district use tax to the district where the vehicle will be used.
- (9) Neither the buyer nor the seller have any district tax reporting responsibilities.
- (10) The seller is not responsible for reporting the district use tax unless the vehicle is registered in the district where it will be used. If the vehicle is not registered in the district of use, the buyer is responsible for reporting district use tax to the district of use.

registered to the following address:

#### **APPLICATION, ETC. (Contd.)**

### PLACE OF DELIVERY OF CERTAIN VEHICLES, AIRCRAFT AND UNDOCUMENTED VESSELS.

(2) For commercial vehicles:

#### **DECLARATION**

(Commercial Vehicle)

(1) The (here insert description of commercial vehicle, giving name of manufacturer and type) purchased from (insert name of seller) will be

1	r i	Ц	E	D	E	ים	V	$\sim$	E.	D	T	п	77	7 -	Г	ш	r /	\٦	Г٠
J		ш	Ŀ.	1	انا	D		v.	Ŀ.	IJ		и	. 1		L		Ľ	١.	ι.

The vehicle will be operated	ted from the following address:
of district) District.	ne vehicle will be operated is outside the (name cle will be kept or garaged at:
outside the (name of distr ☐ (a) The purchaser doe ☐ (b) The purchaser hold	s not hold a California seller's permit. ds California seller's permit No.
eat the sale of the above de cansactions (sales) tax imp	for the purpose of allowing the above named escribed tangible personal property as exempt osed by the <i>(name of district)</i> District. If the or otherwise consumed in that district, the the use tax.
ing declaration is made un	der penalty of perjury.
	PURCHASER
	TITLE
	AUTHORIZED AGENT
DATE	
	The address from which the of district.  When not in use, the vehical will be stored outside the (name of district).  (a) The purchaser does (Check applicable box. and that this declaration is the eat the sale of the above decransactions (sales) tax imposes principally stored, used shall be liable for and paying declaration is made units.

800.0048 **Purchases Prior to Effective Date of Tax.** The effective date of the Sacramento County district tax was April 1, 1989. Property purchased before that date and stored in Yolo County is not subject to the district use tax when, after April 1, 1989, it is transported by the purchaser to a location in Sacramento County for use there. Regulation 1823(b)(1) provides that, under certain conditions, the district use tax may apply to property "... purchased from a retailer on or after the operative date of the district taxing ordinance." 3/30/89.

800.0090 **Storage of Property.** A not-for-profit hospital operates a large warehouse facility in which it maintains a stock on hand of general supplies that are used at its hospitals and administrative buildings. The warehouse is located in District A where the combined state, local, and district tax rate is 7.75%. The hospital and administrative buildings are located in District B where the combined state, local, and district tax rate is 8.25%.

The taxpayer's purchasing department, located in District A, places orders with various vendors. The orders are shipped to the warehouse in District A where they are received, counted, verified, and stocked. Ownership to the property vests with the taxpayer at its warehouse in District A. The taxpayer receives requests from internal departments and delivers the property in its own trucks to the hospital or administrative buildings in District B. The warehouse in District A and the internal departments in District B are not separate "persons" within the meaning of section 6005.

In this case, the transaction between the taxpayer and its vendors is completed when the goods are delivered to the warehouse with the state and Bradley-Burns sales and use tax consequences being set at that time. However, District taxes are another matter. The resolution of this issue turns on whether district transaction (sales) or district use tax applies to the transaction.

Section 6009.1 applies where the property has no functional purpose other than as a mere object in transit. The temporary storage of property under such condition is not a taxable use of the property. The same rule is incorporated into the District Tax Law. Thus, where an out-of-district (but in-state) retailer ships the property to the purchaser's warehouse in District A, where it is stored temporarily, and later transferred to District B and put to functional use, the transactions are subject to district use tax only in District B. The taxpayer must self-report the 1% District B tax for the quarter in which the property is delivered to District B, but is entitled to a credit for the 1/2% District A tax if it had paid such tax to the retailer.

However, if the property is delivered to the taxpayer from the retailer's place of business in District A, section 6009.1 does not apply since the applicable district tax would be a sales tax. As a result, District A's transactions tax applies to the sale. The retailer owes tax at the total rate in effect in District A and may collect tax reimbursement from the taxpayer at that rate. Again, the taxpayer must self-report the 1% District B tax for the quarter in which the property is delivered to District B, but is entitled to a credit for the ½% District A tax reimbursement it had paid to the retailer. If District A's rate were higher than B's, the taxpayer would not be entitled to a refund but also would not owe additional tax to District B. (Regulation 1823(b)(2)(B).) 10/11/95.

- 800.0880 **Refund of Illegally-Imposed District Tax.** Section 7276(b) provides that in the event that a district tax is declared unconstitutional, the Board shall administer any refunds in accordance with the guidelines set forth in sections 7275–7279.6 to the extent feasible and practical. In the case of claims filed for the San Francisco Educational Authority, it was neither feasible nor practical to apply the refund guidelines of these provisions. Therefore, the normal refund rules set forth in section 6901 and the three year statute of limitations provided by section 6902 apply to claims for such district taxes. 3/1/96.
- 800.0900 **Regular Deliveries into a Tax District.** A printer who regularly delivers printing to clients in a tax district for use in that district is required to collect the district use tax. 5/18/93.
- 800.0920 **Rental Equipment.** Equipment is purchased in California and sales tax reimbursement is paid on cost at the time of purchase. It is first leased, in substantially the same form as acquired, in a county which does not have a district tax. Soon after the equipment is moved to Nevada and leased there for a period of 90 days. Later, the property is returned to California and leased in another county which imposes a district tax.

Under these circumstances, no district use tax is due, since the equipment was leased outside the district imposing the tax for more than 90 days. However, if the property was returned to California within the 90 day period after the date of purchase and was leased in a county which has a district tax, then the district use tax would be due. 8/23/89

800.0950 Sales Agents Operating in Districts. Taxpayer operates from a warehouse in Burbank, California, and a showroom in Hollywood, California. It ships products to all points in California and the United States. It has no other offices or distribution points, but does employ outside people who solicit for business throughout the state.

All products are sold F.O.B. the Burbank warehouse and all shipments are arranged with freight forwarding companies by the clients.

The taxpayer's place of business is in the Los Angeles County and, as a result, all sales to Los Angeles County residents or in which the purchaser picks up the goods at the warehouse are subject to Los Angeles County transaction taxes.

When pursuant to the contract of sale, products are shipped out of Los Angeles County, its transaction (sales) taxes do not apply. However, if taxpayer ships property into a countywide taxing district in which one of its sales agents is operating, it is engaged in business in that district and is required to collect use tax on that sale at the rate in effect there. 3/25/92.

800.0956 **Sales to Contractor—Installation Site in District.** A supplier located in a nontransit district sells materials to contractors who take delivery at the supplier's place of business. The supplier knows that the contractor will consume the materials in a transit district.

If the supplier is "engaged in business" in the transit district in which the materials are consumed by the contractor, the supplier would be obligated to collect the transit district use tax from the contractor when the supplier's local

office or representative in the transit district has participated in any way in the sale. "Engaged in business" means and includes one who has an office in the district, or who has agents or representatives operating in the district for the purpose of selling, delivering, or taking orders for tangible personal property.

However, if supplier is not "engaged in business" in the transit district and supplier delivers the property sold to customer at the supplier's factory, the supplier has no obligation to collect transit district use tax even though it knows the customer will use the property in the transit district. 4/28/88.

800.0958 **Sales by Fueling Network.** A fueling network has three parties involved in each network transaction: the "host participant," the "foreign participant," and the "trucker." The host participant is the person who physically provides the fuel. The foreign participant is the party who contracts with the trucker for the sale of fuel to the trucker.

Each participant has its own truckers to whom it issues network cards, and enters into agreements with each trucker for the sale of fuel at a specific price. This price is confidential; whenever a sale is made within the network, the host participant is never apprised of the retail selling price of the fuel. For participation in the sale of the fuel through the network, the host participant is reimbursed for its cost of the fuel, as determined by the OPIS price at the time of the sale, plus actual freight charges and a previously agreed upon network allowance.

Where the foreign participant is engaged in business in this state, the host participant is a seller making a sale for resale to the foreign participant. Thus, the retail sale is made by the foreign participant directly to the trucker (consumer) with whom it has an agreement for the sale of fuel. As the negotiations leading up to the sale are entirely between the foreign participant and the trucker, the location of the place of business of the foreign participant is the place of sale of the fuel for local tax purposes under Regulation 1802(a)(2). The same holds true for district taxes. (Regulation 1822(a)(2).) However, the local and district tax consequences differ.

The local sales tax would be allocated to the location of the foreign participant's place of business, but the sale would be subject to the district use tax, if any, of the location in which the host participant delivered the fuel. (Regulation 1823(a)(2)(B).) For purposes of collecting the tax, the foreign participant would be considered engaged in business in the district under Regulation 1827(c)(2) and so required to collect its use tax. (Regulation 1827(a).)

When the foreign participant's place of business is located out of state and is not engaged in business in the state, the host participant is deemed the retailer under the second paragraph of section 6007. The applicable local tax is that of the location of the host participant's place of business. (Regulation 1802 (a)(1).) If the host participant is located in a taxing district, the transaction (sales) tax of that district (or districts) applies to the sale. Thus, the tax rate in effect at the host participant's location will apply whether the foreign participant is engaged in business in this state (and thus, the retailer) or not (meaning that the host participant is deemed the retailer). (Regulation 1823(a)(1).) 1/29/96.

800.0960 Sale in Nondistrict Area with Shipment from a District Area. A company has its sales office in a county which does not impose district taxes. It maintains its warehouse in, and makes shipments via common carrier from, a county which does impose district taxes. The company is liable for district taxes only for the district in which the warehouse is located. If it has no sales representatives or agents elsewhere, the company is not required to collect district use tax for any other district. 5/16/95.

800.0980 **Shipment Contracts.** A retailer, located in Los Angeles County, is involved in making sales to customers located in Los Angeles and adjacent counties. Orders are either received via purchase order, or verbally by phone. Orders are delivered to customer by the retailer's truck, common carrier, or U.P.S.

A retailer has the duty to collect the use tax of a district if it is making regular deliveries into those counties, (Regulation 1823(a)(2)(b)), or is otherwise engaged in business in those counties, Regulation 1827(c). These sales would not be subject to the Los Angeles County District tax if they are shipped outside the county pursuant to the contract of sale. 1/28/91.

800.0981 Shipments of Warehoused Merchandise. Taxpayer has offices in Sonoma and Contra Costa Counties. A customer located in Santa Clara County sends a purchase order for products which contain its logo to the taxpayer. Taxpayer bills the customer and holds the goods in its Sonoma County warehouse. At customer's direction, taxpayer sends the products to customer's offices located throughout the world. Once a month the customer is billed for fulfillment and shipping costs. The products shipped are intended as gifts to new employees.

Assuming that title passed to customer upon delivery to the taxpayer's Sonoma County warehouse, sales tax would apply to the products purchased unless the contract specifically required the property to be shipped outside California. Since shipments are made based on future instructions, it appears that the contract does not require shipment outside of California or to any other county. Consequently, the tax rate in Sonoma County (including the ½ percent district tax) is the applicable rate since subsequent shipments are not made pursuant to the contract of sale. However, shipments to other counties are also subject to the destination county's district tax (if any). Since taxpayer ships the property to the customer in the destination county, and the customer makes the gift in that county, the use occurs in the destination county.

Taxpayer is required to collect the district tax in any district in which it is engaged in business (e.g., sales persons operating in the destination county such as in its Contra Costa County office would be required to collect the BART District Tax and two Contra Costa transit authority taxes). Credit for the Sonoma County district tax is applicable against another county's district tax the taxpayer is required to collect. Also, the purchaser is entitled to a credit against and district use tax, not required to be collected by the seller, for the district sales tax reimbursement paid to the seller. (See Regulation 1823.) 1/13/93.

800.1000 **Subcontractors Located in Other Countries.** A taxpayer's principal place of business is located in Sacramento County. He contracts out most activities such as order taking, warehouse storage, fulfillment, order processing, and shipping to subcontractors located in other counties. Shipments are made by UPS, Federal Express, or other common carriers. Sources of customers are ads which are placed in various publications which contain "800" numbers. Orders received are relayed to a warehouse (outside of Sacramento) for shipment.

Taxpayer's subcontractor's operations qualify as "engaged in business" in each taxing district where they are located. Accordingly, taxpayer is liable for collection of the district tax for sales to customers located in a district where taxpayer is "engaged in business". The purchaser is responsible for reporting the use tax in locations where taxpayer is not "engaged in business". 6/25/93.

- 800.1150 **Tax Rate After Tax Credit Program Ends—SB 263.** In 1993, SB 263 was enacted to provide for a program of tax credits to effect the refund of certain local taxes (section 7276). Under that program, the legal tax rate in Monterey County remained at 7.25% but, for a period of time, taxpayers there could take a credit of 0.75% against their tax liability for an effective rate of 6.5%. That tax credit program ended March 31, 1996. SB 263 did not provide for a fixed-price contract exemption from the end of the tax credit program. Therefore, even though a sale is pursuant to a contract entered into during the rollback period which meets the definition of a "fixed price contract" under section 6376.1, it is subject to the full legal tax rate of 7.25% if the sale takes place after March 31, 1996. The "rollback" rate of 6.5% would apply, however, if the goods to be sold were specifically identified by the seller and buyer as the goods to be delivered to the buyer, and the buyer had paid for the goods prior to April 1, 1996, even if they were not delivered to the buyer until after March 31. 4/24/97.
- 800.1350 **Use Tax Allocation.** The test for determining district use tax liability is parallel to the tests for determining state use tax liability, as contained in Regulation 1620. If the first functional use of the property occurs in a transit district, that district's use tax applies, and no other district's use tax can apply. If the first functional use of the property is outside of any district, and the property is then brought into a district within 90 days after purchase and is thereafter principally used in that district, that district's use tax applies, and no other district's use tax applies. 5/31/90.
- 800.1450 **Validity of District Tax.** As a result of the voters approval of Proposition 62, which added sections 53720 through 53730 to the Government Code, local government is allowed to impose taxes for general purposes with the approval of a majority of the voters voting in an election on the issue. section 53721 defines a "general tax" as one "imposed for general government purposes."

In the wake of Proposition 62, the legislature enacted Revenue and Taxation Code section 7285, which authorizes counties to impose district taxes for general purposes with approval of a majority of the voters voting in an election on the same issue.

Therefore, a county may impose a transaction and use tax (district tax) for general purposes with the approval of a majority of the voters voting in an election on the issue. 1/4/94.

800.1500 **Vehicle.** An out-of-state dealer, who is not engaged in business in California, takes an order for an automobile and the order is shipped from a third party warehouse in Irvine, California, to a retail customer in Los Angeles, California.

Since the property is located in Irvine at the time the sale takes place, the sale takes place in Irvine and sales tax applies to the sale. Pursuant to section 6007, the person who delivers property directly to a California consumer pursuant to a retail sale made by a retailer not engaged in business in California is deemed to be the retailer and must report tax on the retail sales price.

When the vehicle is registered and licensed to the customer in Los Angeles County, the sale is exempt from district transactions taxes imposed in Orange County and is subject to district use tax in Los Angeles County. Thus, the 1% Los Angeles district use tax applies, and the retailer is required to collect the tax. 9/27/94.

800.2150 **Deliveries From Storage.** A taxpayer manufactures, prints, and purchases for resale business forms and supplies. The taxpayer stores the merchandise in its warehouses and ships the merchandise, as needed, by common carrier to customers in California and in other states. Some customers periodically order merchandise to be stored in the warehouse until needed. A customer may agree to a specific time limit for the storage of merchandise. The taxpayer may not know where specific merchandise so stored will be shipped until instructions are received from the customer. Some customers are billed for the merchandise when it is received for storage at the taxpayer's warehouse. Others are billed when the merchandise is actually shipped to the customer. The contract provides that title passes upon full payment.

When merchandise is shipped from an out-of-state warehouse to a California customer, California use tax would apply. If the customer incurs tax or tax reimbursement liability in the other state, the customer is allowed a credit for the tax or tax reimbursement liability actually incurred. However, if tax was mistakenly paid to the other state, no credit would be allowed.

If shipment is made from a California warehouse to a customer's location outside the state and the contract specifically requires delivery to the out-of-state location, the tax will not apply even though title may have passed in California. This result is valid only if the purchaser is not authorized under the contract to direct that the property be diverted to a California destination.

If a shipment is made from a California warehouse to a California customer located in a different tax district, the applicable district tax is that of the destination district if the taxpayer is required by the contract to ship the merchandise to the customer in the other tax district.

If it is unknown at the time of the contracting whether merchandise will be shipped instate or out of state, the application of tax will depend on the time of title passage. Under the contracts provided, title passes upon full payment. Accordingly, if the customer is billed when merchandise is delivered to the taxpayer's warehouse, tax will apply at that time. If the customer is billed at the time that the taxpayer makes shipment, tax will apply at that time if the merchandise is shipped to a California location. Also, when billing takes place at the time of shipment, no tax applies if the merchandise is shipped out of the state pursuant to the contract of the sale. 8/26/94.

#### 802.0000 ADMINISTRATION

- 802.0020 **Interest on Special Deposits.** The Retail Sales Tax Fund (RSTF) is a sub-fund of the General Fund. Under the statutes, any revenues deposited in the RSTF not used for designated purposes are transferred to the General Fund. Section 7271 provides only that tax revenue which the Board collects on behalf of a district shall be transmitted to the district which levied the tax. There is no statutory basis for the Board to pay a district interest on such funds. Therefore, interest on moneys in the RSTF accrues only to the benefit of the General Fund. 3/26/97.
- 802.0090 **Offsets—District Taxes.** The overpayment of taxes imposed by one taxing jurisdiction such as a district transportation tax cannot be used to offset state sales tax, Bradley-Burns Tax or other district taxes. While the Board administers and enforces the taxes, each jurisdiction's tax is individually imposed and may not be offset against another jurisdiction's tax. 4/28/97.
- 802.0300 **Termination of District Tax—Administrative Fees.** The Board should continue to charge administrative fees even though the District tax has been terminated. Neither the contract nor the statute is keyed to whether or not the tax is currently being levied at the time the money comes in. Therefore, as long as the Board is collecting and transmitting tax, it is entitled both under the contract and the statute to take its administrative fees out of the revenues due the district. 10/13/95.
- 802.0310 **Termination of District Tax—Future Tax Revenue.** Even though a District Tax has been terminated, the Board will continue to receive revenue derived from it, based on accounts receivable, audits in progress, and other unpaid accounts. There is nothing in the statute or in the contract requiring that tax revenues be transmitted in advance of actual receipts. The Board has a policy of making advances of 90 percent of the actual revenue based on prepayments. Where there are no prepayments, such as in this situation, but some payments are still being made through audits and accounts receivable, there can be no advance payments to the district. Actual revenues should be transmitted "as promptly as feasible," however, and "at least twice in each calendar quarter" if possible. 10/13/95.

#### 805.0000 COLLECTION OF TAX BY RETAILERS—Regulation 1827

- 805.0010 **Alameda Tax.** Sales by an Oakland retailer, having no physical presence outside of Oakland, to Alameda County residents or residents of other counties who pick up their purchases at the Oakland place of business are subject to state sales tax, uniform local sales tax, BART tax, and ACTA tax for a combined rate of 8.25%. Sales to residents of other counties requiring that their purchases be shipped to them, generally are not subject to BART or ACTA tax. However, if the other county is either San Francisco or Contra Costa, the BART sales tax applies but not the ACTA sales tax. If the other county has a countywide district tax, the purchaser is liable for the district use tax at the rate in effect in that district. If the retailer has agents, representatives or employees who solicit sales, take orders or make deliveries in such counties, the retailer must collect the district use tax for which the customer is liable and remit it to the state. 10/8/92.
- 805.0040 **Collection of District Taxes.** An out of state retailer that maintains a sales office in Los Angeles also conducts seminars in other locations throughout this state at which it displays its products. All merchandise is shipped from an out-of-state location. The retailer is required to collect and remit district use tax on all sales delivered into any county in which it has an office or it regularly conducts seminars if that county has a district use tax. 1/9/90.
- 805.0042 **Collection of District Use Tax.** A taxpayer is a software company with offices only in one county but which sells its software throughout California. All sales are made from its offices located in the one county. However, the taxpayer's representatives go to the clients' offices to install the software and, thus, the taxpayer is engaged in business in any district in which its customers are located (Regulation 1827(c)(2)). Accordingly, the taxpayer properly collects the appropriate district use tax on the sale of the software itself. Software upgrades are, however, distributed to the clients by mail or UPS, without any subsequent visits by the taxpayer's personnel. Since it ships the upgrades to its customers in districts in which it is engaged in business, the taxpayer must also collect district use tax on the sales of the upgrades (Regulation 1827(b)(1)). 4/23/96.
- 805.0043 **Collection of District Use Tax.** A retailer engaged in business in a district is required to collect district use tax on sales made to customers in that district if the retailer ships or delivers the property into the district, or participates within the district in making the sale by means of having within the district any agent, representative, or any person acting under the retailer's authority. It is immaterial that the customer to whom the property was shipped may not have been contacted by the retailer's representative in the district. 3/1/89.
- 805.0045 **Collection of District Use Tax—Vehicles.** Contrary to the general rule stated in other sections of Regulation 1827, subdivision (c)(4) defines a retailer of a vehicle as "engaged in business in the district." The application of this section requires the vehicle dealer to collect and remit the district use tax of the district in which the vehicle is registered, even if the dealer has no physical representation in that district and has not delivered the vehicle into that district. 3/30/94.

#### **COLLECTION OF TAX BY RETAILERS (Contd.)**

- 805.0050 **Deliveries of Vehicles to State Agencies.** The place of delivery of state vehicles is considered the place of use, and the district use tax will apply where the delivery to the state agency is made in a district. (Regulation 1823(b).) Thus, the vehicle dealer is responsible for collecting the district use tax when a vehicle is delivered in a special district in which it is "engaged in business." (Regulation 1827(b)(3).) 7/20/88.
- 805.0100 **Installation of Mobile Home.** A contract to furnish and install a mobile home is a construction contract. A construction contractor who installs a mobile home in a special tax district is regarded as being engaged in business in that district. The contractor is required to report the district tax applicable to that district. 11/18/93.
- 805.0125 **Mail Order Company.** A mail order company which sends catalogs to prospective customers by mail and then ships the ordered goods via UPS to residents in other counties in California is not considered as being engaged in business in districts other than the district in which the place of business is located. Therefore, the mail order company is not required to collect district use tax owed by its customers for merchandise purchased from the mail order company. 5/30/89.
- 805.0130 **Mobile Home Dealers.** Mobile home dealers are retailers with regards to local and district taxes. By making regular deliveries into purchasers' districts, the dealers are engaged in business in those districts pursuant to Regulation 1827. Thus, dealers are required to collect district use taxes when they deliver and/or install mobilehomes into counties with a district tax. 4/12/93.
- 805.0140 **Nationwide Catalog Sales.** Taxpayer sells career educational materials nationwide through catalog sales. It has only one office which is located in a California county not having a countywide taxing district. Also, it does not have outside sales people that work outside the office. All orders are shipped from the office location via UPS or U.S. Mail.

Since taxpayer does not have an outside sales staff and is located in a county not having a taxing district, it is not required to collect district use taxes. However, purchasers residing in taxing districts are required to pay their district use taxes. 3/10/92.

- 805.0155 **Reimbursement for Transaction Tax.** A direct mail marketing company is required to report and pay the district transactions (sales) tax to the Board on its sales of property to purchasers within the county in which the company is engaged in business. Since the district transactions tax, just like the state sales tax, is imposed on the seller, not the purchaser, the company is not required to collect reimbursement for district transactions tax from its customers. Whether tax reimbursement is obtained for the sales tax and the transactions tax is a matter of contract between the sellers and the purchaser. 4/24/89.
- 805.0166 **Sales with In-State Participation.** An out-of-state retailer makes sales into California with all sales shipped FOB the out-of-state point. The retailer has an in-state independent sales representative, who solicits orders and

#### **COLLECTION OF TAX BY RETAILERS (Contd.)**

forwards them to the out-of-state retailer. This creates sufficient nexus to require the retailer to collect state and local use tax from its California consumer customers on the sales solicited by the in-state representative and on the sales made directly from the out-of-state location without in-state participation.

With respect to the collection of district use tax, the retailer has a duty only with respect to those sales made in counties having county-wide taxing districts in which the in-state representative has a physical presence. Physical presence includes temporary presence resulting from sales trips into counties other than the county in which the representative's office is located. 10/8/92.

- 805.0167 San Diego County District Use Tax Credit. Although the tax rate in effect in San Diego County continues to be 7.75%, an eligible taxpayer (which includes a retailer collecting district use tax) may claim a credit of 0.75% against its tax liability for an effective rate of 7.00%. (Section 7276(a).) The credit may be taken until the Board notifies taxpayers that the credit is terminated. (Section 6276(d).) Thus, for contracts in effect at the time the tax credit became operative, taxpayers should have ceased to collect sales tax reimbursement or use tax at the full rate and only collect 7.00%. It would be appropriate for contracts currently being negotiated to provide for a full tax rate 7.75% but also that only 7.00% will be collected from the customer until the credit is ended and the full rate after that time. 6/30/95.
- 805.0168 **Sold in a District.** A retailer located in a county having a county-wide district tax is liable for the transaction (sales) tax on all taxable sales made and delivered at the place of business at the rate in effect in that district, regardless of whether the purchaser is from that county or another county. Sales shipped to purchasers in the county in which the retailer is located are subject to district sales tax at the district rate.

Sales shipped to customers outside of the retailer's county are not subject to the district sales tax, but are subject to any district use tax in the destination county. If the retailer is "engaged in business" in the county in which the customer is located and that county has a district tax, the retailer is required to collect the use tax from the customer and remit it to the state. Briefly, "engaged in business" means having a place of business in a county, or a representative or agent or employee operating there for the purpose of selling, delivering, or taking orders. 10/8/92.

- 805.0175 **State Department of Education.** The State Department of Education is not a separate entity, but is an agency of the State of California. Therefore, the Department of Education is a retailer engaged in business in districts throughout the state in which state offices are located. Therefore, it is required to collect district use taxes in all counties. 9/20/88.
- 805.0200 **Traveling Salesman.** A machinery manufacturer, headquartered out-of-state, manufactures large custom machines and replacement parts in Santa Rosa. The machines and parts are shipped via common carrier to all counties in California and outside of California. The company has a salesman, operating out of Santa Rosa, traveling throughout his sales area lining up customers and handling the California activities.

#### **COLLECTION OF TAX BY RETAILERS (Contd.)**

Santa Rosa is in Sonoma County. Sales in Sonoma County are subject to the Sonoma County transaction tax. The company is also "engaged in business" in the counties in which the salesman operates and is required to collect their district use tax, if any. 4/21/92.

- 805.0240 **Use Tax Collection Liability.** A taxpayer is located in a county which does not have a special tax district. The taxpayer employs a salesperson who works out of his or her home in a county which does have a special tax district. All orders are F.O.B. the taxpayer's location. The sales are regarded as taking place in the county of the taxpayer's location. The taxpayer is required to collect special district use tax on sales to residents in the county in which its employee resides. The taxpayer is not required to collect special district use tax on sales to residents in other counties having special tax districts. 7/24/91.
- 805.0300 **Single Delivery Into a Tax District.** The making of a single delivery into a tax district will not in itself cause a taxpayer to be regarded as engaged in business in that district. The taxpayer is not required to collect district use tax on its sales to customers in that district based on isolated deliveries. 8/31/94.
- 805.1000 **University of California.** The University of California is an "instrumentality of the state" or a "constitutional department or function of state government," or a "statewide administrative agency." As such, it appears that the University of California is present in all areas of the state and for that reason is required to collect use tax in all of the transit districts. 12/20/82.
- 805.1010 **Warehouse Sales.** A taxpayer requested advice as to the proper tax rate on its sale to a customer in Sacramento County. The product is manufactured and warehoused at a facility in San Mateo County. The customer is invoiced and takes title to the product when it is placed in the warehouse. The product is then delivered to the customer, at their request, in one or more shipments, to Sacramento County. Although the customer takes title to the product in San Mateo County, the taxpayer contracts to ship the product to Sacramento County. The San Mateo district transactions tax does not apply to these transactions. However, the customer does owe the Sacramento countywide district use tax. If this taxpayer is "engaged in business" in Sacramento County, it is also required to collect the Sacramento countywide district use tax on these sales. 8/20/91. (Am. 2002–2).

# 810.0000 AIRCRAFT COMMON CARRIERS AND WATERBORNE VESSELS—Regulation 1825

(Note: Reference to public utilities and common carriers, other than aircraft common carriers, are to the law in effect prior to January 1, 1974. Regulation 1824 was repealed January 1, 1974.)

810.0014 **Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity.** Since 1978, the federal requirement that air carriers possess certificates of public convenience and necessity no longer applies. At about the same time, the California Public Utility Commission also eliminated such requirement. The requirement for air

#### **AIRCRAFT COMMON CARRIERS, ETC. (Contd.)**

carriers to operate "under a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued pursuant to the laws of this state, the United States," as set forth under Regulations 1805(b)(2) and 1825(b)(2) is no longer applicable. Accordingly, sales to aircraft common carriers qualify for the exemption under the above regulations if the remaining conditions of the exemption are met. 3/10/86.

810.0020 **Exemption Certificates.** Exemption certificates should be obtained for exemptions claimed with respect to the transactions (sales) and use tax even though certificates have previously been obtained under the Bradley-Burns tax from common carriers, public utilities, and operators of waterborne vessels.

Certificates should be obtained for the following reasons:

- 1. While it is generally true that a transaction exempt from the Bradley-Burns tax will also be exempt from the transactions (sales) and use tax, the converse is not necessarily true. In other words, some transactions may be exempt from the transactions (sales) and use tax but not be exempt under the Bradley-Burns Uniform Sales and Use Tax Law.
- 2. Section 6421 of the Revenue and Taxaton Code which is incorporated into both the Bradley-Burns tax and the transactions (sales) and use tax ordinances, provides that if a purchaser certifies in writing to a seller that the property purchased will be used in a manner or for a purpose entitling the seller to regard the transaction as being exempted from sales tax and he uses the property in some other manner or for some other purpose the purchaser shall be liable for the payment of sales tax as if he were a retailer making a retail sale of the property at the time of use. Unless an exemption certificate for transactions (sales) and use tax is obtained from purchasers, this section will not apply. If the exemption certificate is not obtained and it is found that the transaction is subject to the transaction (sales) or use tax, we would have to look to the seller for the payment of the transactions (sales) or use tax rather than to the purchaser. 3/24/70.
- 810.1010 Place of Sale for Fuel Sold to Aircraft Common Carrier. Corporation A, a wholly owned subsidiary of Corporation B, was organized for the purpose of purchasing aircraft fuel from fuel suppliers and reselling the fuel to B. Two questions were asked:
  - (1) Is the point of sale on a "needs" contract the same for local and state tax purposes, particularly when the seller's only California location is in a county other than the county in which the fuel is delivered? ("Needs" or "requirements" contracts call for the furnishing of fuel to the airline at a stipulated price. The contract may provide for minimum and maximum amounts of fuel and all other details except amount of fuel to be placed in a particular aircraft and the particular time of delivery.)

It makes no difference whether or not the fuel contracts are requirements contracts. The sale for sales and use tax purposes occurs when B, not A, takes possession of the fuel. Whether there is a requirements contract or not, this occurs when the suppliers who sold the fuel to A for resale to B, actually deliver the fuel to the aircraft.

#### AIRCRAFT COMMON CARRIERS, ETC. (Contd.)

(2) If the point of sale for local tax purposes is different than for state tax, what minimum requirements must the seller meet to establish a presence in a specific county other than the county of delivery?

If there are facts which indicate that B's employees, acting as agents on behalf of A, in B's California office, take any part in negotiations for the sale of fuel by A to B (including, for example, taking orders for the quantities of fuel to be delivered at the airport), then those facts could be sufficient to establish that A has a place of business in California for Bradley-Burns and district tax purposes. It would not matter whether the principal negotiations for the sales occurred out of state, as long as some activity related to sales is attributed to the California office. Since that California office would be its sole place of business in California, all sales for Bradley-Burns and district tax purposes would be considered to have occurred in that county and not in the county of delivery.

Thus A's sales of fuel to B would qualify for the 80% exemption from Bradley-Burns taxes and the full exemption from district taxes, because the fuel sold would be entirely consumed outside of the county of the place of sale. 4/14/89. (Am. 2002–2).

(Note: Subsequent statutory change July 29, 1991, regarding "exemption for fuel", subsequent statutory change January 1, 1999, regarding "place of sale of jet fuel", and see Regulation 1805. Also note statutory changes in Revenue and Taxation Code sections 7204.03 and 7205 regarding "place of sale of jet fuel", and see Regulation 1802(b)(7).)

#### 815.0000 CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS—Regulation 1826

- 815.0009 **Delivery of Construction Materials to Location Outside of Special Tax District.** A construction contractor is directed by its customer to deliver certain equipment which the customer is purchasing to a location outside of the special tax district in which the job is located. The contractor is aware that the equipment will be used in the special tax district and it is engaged in business in that district. The contractor is required to collect the district use tax from the buyer even if installation of the equipment is not required. 1/26/95.
- 815.0010 **Factory-Built Housing and Mobile Homes.** Special rules apply to the sale and use of factory-built school buildings, factory-built housing, and mobile homes used as residences. The purchaser/dealers of these items are liable for the district use tax. Also by virtue of making regular deliveries into the purchaser's districts, the dealers are engaged in business in those districts. As a result, the purchaser/dealers are required to collect the district use tax at the rate in effect in the districts into which the purchaser/dealers deliver and/or install these structures. 4/12/93.
- 815.0011 **Fixed Price Contracts.** When dealing with the earthquake tax, if the prime contract qualifies as a fixed price contract, the subcontract also qualifies. However, this rule does not apply to the exemption for fixed price contracts under district taxes. In that case, each contract must qualify on its own. 7/10/91.

#### CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS (Contd.)

815.0020 **Property Obligated Under Contract Prior to Effective Date of Ordinance.** Section 6376 of the Sales and Use Tax Law which grants a partial exemption from state tax of the sale or use of materials and fixtures obligated pursuant to a construction contract entered into prior to August 1, 1967, is not incorporated into the transaction (sales) and use taxes.

With respect to materials purchased and used on or after April 1, 1970, within the BART district, the tax will apply except:

- (a) the transactions (sales) tax will not apply if the seller of the materials is obligated to furnish the property to the buyer for a fixed price pursuant to a contract entered into prior to April 1, 1970;
- (b) the use of materials will be subject to tax unless the contractor is obligated to purchase the property for a fixed price pursuant to a contract entered into prior to April 1, 1970. This is explained in Regulation 1823, paragraphs (a)(2)(C), (b)(2)(D), (d).

With respect to fixtures which are furnished and installed on and after April 1, 1970, within the district, the district transactions sales tax or use tax applies except with respect to those fixtures furnished and installed under a fixed price contract entered into prior to April 1, 1970, which meets the conditions referred to in the portions of Regulation 1823 referred to above. 3/9/70.

- 815.0500 Sales Tax Reimbursement Under Lump Sum Contracts. A person who contracts with a property owner to furnish and install a fixture is the retailer of that fixture. The fact that the contract is for a lump sum does not automatically mean that the person did not actually collect sales tax reimbursement from the property owner either by separate statement or through a specific tax included price. Therefore, in this case of refunds due from the San Diego Justice Facilities Financing Agency (SDJF), the question of whether sales tax reimbursement was obtained must be answered before it can be determined whether the contractor or the consumer must file a refund claim under the statutory scheme provided for in refunding SDJF taxes. 8/8/94.
- 815.0600 **Tax Rate Changes.** Grandfather exemptions from tax increases exist for the following three different tax increases: (1) the ½% tax increase (earthquake tax), (2) the ½% OCTA and LATC tax increases, and (3) the ½% state tax increase effective July 15, 1991. Each of these tax increases are covered by a specific and separate "grandfather clause" which exempts certain transactions entered into prior to the operative dates from the tax increase. Each of these laws stands alone, and each is slightly different as it relates to fixed price construction contracts. A clarification of the "grandfather clause" for each of three tax increases as they relate to fixed price construction contracts follows:
  - (1) ½% Earthquake Tax

The "grandfather clause" covering the tax rate increase for the ½% (earthquake tax) exempts from that increase fixtures, materials, and supplies obligated pursuant to a fixed price construction contract entered into prior to November 7, 1989.

(2) Transactions Taxes in General (½% OCTA, LATC, etc.)

#### CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS (Contd.)

The "grandfather clause" covering the tax rate increase for OCTA, LATC, as well as other district taxes exempts from that increase fixed price contracts. This includes fixtures obligated pursuant to a fixed price construction contract entered into prior to the effective date of the increase because construction contractors are retailers of fixtures. The "grandfather clause" relating to the tax increase does not provide an exemption from the increase for materials and supplies purchased pursuant to a fixed price construction contract entered into prior to the effective date of the increase, unless the contractor has entered into a fixed price contract directly with its supplier for these materials and supplies prior to the effective date of the tax increase.

#### (3) 11/4% State Tax Increase

The "grandfather clause" covering the tax rate increase for the 11/4% state tax increase exempts from that increase materials and fixtures obligated pursuant to a fixed price construction contract entered into prior to July 15, 1991. The "grandfather clause" relating to this tax increase does not provide an exemption from the increase for supplies purchased pursuant to a fixed price construction contract entered into prior to the effective date of the increase, unless the contractor has entered a fixed price contract directly with its supplier for these supplies prior to the effective date of the tax increase. 9/11/92; 5/20/96.

# 817.0000 PLACE OF DELIVERY OF CERTAIN VEHICLES, AIRCRAFT AND UNDOCUMENTED VESSELS—Regulation 1823.5

- 817.0235 **District Use Tax—Automobile.** A person purchased a vehicle in a county outside of a transit district. He garages the vehicle inside the district but generally uses public transportation within the district. He maintains that the vehicle is used principally outside the district. The storage within the district is a "use." Accordingly the principal "use" of the vehicle was within the district and the district tax applies. 4/27/82.
- 817.0260 **Documented and Undocumented Vessels.** An undocumented vessel is defined in the Vehicle Code section 9840 as "any vessel which is not required to have and does not have a valid marine document issued by the Bureau of Customs of the United States or any federal agency successor thereto." The rules regarding the application of district tax set forth in Regulation 1823.5 were intended to be applied only to undocumented vessels. Sales of documented vessels are evaluated for district tax consequences just as are the sales of any other item of tangible personal property. Therefore, if a documented vessel is sold in a district, and the seller ships or delivers it out of that district pursuant to the contract of sale, the transactions tax of the seller's district does not apply to the sale. If the buyer resides in a district, the use tax of that district does apply, and the seller must collect it if engaged in business in the buyer's district. 6/22/94.
- 817.2000 **Registration of Undocumented Vessels.** The application of tax to the sale of undocumented vessels by a retailer who is located in Sacramento County is as follows:

#### PLACE OF DELIVERY, ETC. (Contd.)

(1) The Department of Motor Vehicles application for registration requests two addresses: (a) the address of the registered owner, and (b) the address where the vessel is kept (moored). In determining the tax rate, the following applies:

If the undocumented vessel is delivered to the purchaser at the retailer's place of business and the vessel is registered to a Sacramento County address but will be moored at an out-of-county marina, the Sacramento County's district transaction tax will apply to the sale of the vessel. This is because the vessel was not delivered to a location outside of the district nor delivered in the district to a purchaser whose registration address was outside the district. It would not matter that the vessel was immediately removed to the out-of-county marina.

If the purchaser's registration address is outside of any district and the place where the vessel will be moored is also outside of any district, the delivery of the vessel to the purchaser in Sacramento County will be exempt from the district tax, but only if the retailer obtains from the purchaser the Regulation 1823.5 declaration certifying these facts.

If the vessel is delivered to the purchaser at an out-of-district marina where the vessel will be moored, the district tax will not apply regardless of the purchaser's registration address. If the purchaser's registration address is in the district, i.e., Sacramento County, but the vessel is not used in the district, the purchaser is not liable for the district use tax and the retailer is not required to collect the tax.

(2) With respect to the application of the district tax towards accessories sold with the vessel such as electronic equipment (attached), depth sounder (removable), anchors, first aid kits, life jackets, mooring lines, etc., the following applies:

Items that are physically installed on a vessel are considered to be part of the vessel itself, and district tax applies according to the rules for sales of undocumented vessels set out above. However, a removable depth sounder and other items not physically attached to the vessel when used is not considered part of the vessel itself, but rather is additional tangible personal property sold to the customer. Therefore, district tax applies regardless of where the vessel is registered, unless the item is delivered to the purchaser at an out-of-district location.

(3) With respect to documented vessels, the following applies:

There are no special rules regarding sales and deliveries of documented vessels as there are for undocumented vessels (Regulation 1823.5). Therefore, the standard rules which relate to the sales of tangible personal property apply. That is, if the retailer delivers the vessel outside of the district for use by a purchaser outside the district, the district tax will not apply to the sale. On the other hand, if the vessel is delivered outside of the district to a purchaser who resides in the district, there is a presumption that the property is purchased for use within the district and the retailer is obligated to collect the district use tax, unless the retailer in good faith accepts from the purchaser a statement in writing that the vessel was purchased for use at designated point(s) outside the district. 6/16/89.

# 820.0000 PLACE OF SALE FOR PURPOSES OF TRANSACTIONS (SALES) AND USE TAXES—Regulation 1822

820.0085 **Delivery of Poster in BART Area.** A taxpayer is in the business of printing signs and posters which are posted on billboards. The taxpayer will print a poster for a customer and deliver it to the installer in the BART district for pasting and posting on billboards outside the BART area. The customer pays the taxpayer for the poster and, also, pays the installing contractor directly.

Based upon the facts, the taxpayer is not required to ship the posters outside the BART area. Rather, the contract is merely for the delivery to the installing contractor inside BART. Accordingly, an exemption for ship-outs for these posters is not appropriate and the BART district tax applies to such deliveries in the BART area. 7/7/83.

820.0850 **Redistribution of District Tax.** The District Tax Law does not have a statute comparable to section 7209, which provides for reallocation of misallocated local tax. Nevertheless, the Board had previously determined that it had the general power to redistribute tax under the District Tax Law as part of its duty to ensure that the proper tax went to the proper district.

There is no statute barring the Board from making such redistribution under its general authority to administer the tax and its contractual obligation to transmit to a district the money to which it is entitled. Since there is no specific limit on how far back the Board can go in making such redistribution as there is for local tax, the Board seems to be limited only by the three-year statute of limitations contained in section 6487, 1/7/97.